



BOROUGH OF KIDDERMINSTER

ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE WORK OF THE
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

FOR THE YEAR

1968



COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.,
(Medical Officer of Health)

J. B. HINTON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., (Chief Public Health Inspector)





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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
FOR THE YEAR 1998

1998

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1500

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

1968 - 1969.

Chairman	Alderman A.H. Humphries.
Vice-Chairman	Councillor D.V. Adam.
HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (ex officio) ..				...	Councillor W.H. Micklewright.
Alderman W.S. Carter	...	...	...	...	Alderman H.G. Parker.
Councillor A.J. Batchelor ..		...	...	...	Councillor F.R. Bennett.
Councillor Mrs. R. Chamberlain	...		...	...	Councillor W.J. Cotterell.
Councillor C.G. Dance	...	...	...	...	Councillor Lady Eddy.
Councillor J.M. Freeman	...	...	...	...	Councillor J.S. Perrin.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE BOROUGH.

Medical Officer of Health:

COLIN STARKIE, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., B.Sc.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

J.B. HINTON, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector).

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector and Food and Drugs Inspector:

J. WHITTINGSLOW, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector).

Public Health Inspectors:

N. MILLINER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector).

D. KNIGHT, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector).

B.E. ROBERTS, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

(Cert. Meat and Food Inspector). Resigned Feb. 1968.

Assistant to Public Health Inspector:

R.A. ROGERS.

Authorised Meat Inspector.

David Hodgson (From May, 1968).

Inspector:

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

MRS. S.A. COLLINS.

Cleansing Superintendent:

S.B. LORD, A.M.I.W.H.S.

Public Analyst:

W.E. JONES, M.Sc., F.R.I.C.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 1967 and 1968.

	1968	1967
Area of District in Acres.	4,694	4,694
Population at Census 1961.	40,822	40,822
Estimated Population (mid-year) for Birth Rate and Death Rate.	46,180	45,510
No. of inhabited houses estimated.	16,136	15,541
No. of persons per house.	2.86	2.93
Rateable value.	£2,126,456	£2,034,694
Sum represented by Penny Rate.	£8,870	£8,150
No. of Marriages.	438	474
No. of Live Births.	878	922
No. of Still Births.	8	12
Birth Rate (Live) (Corrected).	19.0	20.3
Birth Rate for England and Wales. (Live).	16.9	17.2
No. of illegitimate Births.	68	55
No. of deaths under one year of age.	11	17
of these there were illegitimate.	NIL	2
INFANTILE MORTALITY PER 1,000 BIRTHS.	12.5	18.0
Infantile Mortality for England and Wales.	18.0	18.3
Maternal Mortality Rate, England and Wales.	0.24	0.20
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births)	NIL	NIL
Number of deaths.	520	501
Death Rate (Corrected).	11.2	11.0
Death Rate for England and Wales.	11.3	11.2
Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis.	4	1
Number of Deaths from Cancer.	92	92
Number of Deaths from Influenza.	6	1
Number of Deaths from Measles.	NIL	NIL
Number of Deaths from Whooping Cough.	NIL	NIL

Year	Live Births	Deaths	Births over Deaths Increase
1959	648	502	146
1960	647	472	175
1961	712	534	178
1962	776	517	259
1963	781	532	249
1964	834	532	302
1965	816	458	358
1966	842	531	311
1967	922	501	421
1968	878	520	358

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR THE YEAR 1968.

5 - 9, Church Street,
Kidderminster.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

These days, few people have time to read lengthy Annual Reports, which are therefore of use chiefly as references. With this in mind most of the information has been tabulated, indexed and commentary cut to a minimum.

The health of Kidderminster's young people is excellent and remains so until later middle age when the vital structures begin to degenerate under the strain of age and often misuse. The passage of years we can do nothing about, but individually we could adopt good habits of healthy living which would allow our bodies to function much better and longer than they do. As a community we have improved conditions greatly, but we still tolerate polluted atmosphere and waterways.

As individuals we greatly abuse our nervous system and rarely leave it alone to function normally.

We irritate it with Psychodalic drugs, stupify it with tobacco, poison it with alcohol, overstimulate it with pep pills then knock it out with sleeping tablets! Is it surprising that our mental hospitals are overflowing with neurotics and mental breakdowns and that family doctors are having to prescribe ever increasing amounts of sedatives? Finally, what do we do?

As the body inevitably weakens with age we overstrain it by giving it more and more weight to carry! How many people at age 50 are the weight they were at 25?

With all that the Welfare State and the local community does for them, people will not enjoy the good health they could have until they themselves stop abusing their bodies and cultivate good habits or living. And, as one hears on television, "You know it makes sense".

I am grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their understanding and help and to all members of the Health Department for their unfailing loyal support.

Your obedient servant,

COLIN STARKIE.

Medical Officer of Health.

POPULATION.

There is an increase of 640 to a total now of 46,180 inhabitants of the borough.

The Birth Rate is up to 19 per 1000 persons, and is above the national rate of 16.9.

The Infantile Mortality Rate of 12.5 compares favourably with 18.0 which is the National Rate.

There were 68 illegitimate births, the highest recorded in Kidderminster.

The Death Rate of 11.2 is almost the same as the National Death Rate. 40 men died from Cancer; 13 of these, or $\frac{1}{3}$ of the total were cancer of the lung with which cigarette smoking is so closely associated.

HOUSING.

The demolition and replacement of old and worn out houses is fully dealt with in the Public Health Inspector's report on page 24.

HOUSES BUILT.

Number of houses built by private enterprise ...	...	488
Number of houses built by Local Authority ...	...	301
Total No. of Corporation houses in the		
Borough at 31.12.68. ...	...	4,550
Total number of applicants on housing waiting list at the		
1.1.68. ...	...	525
Total number of applicants on housing waiting list at the		
31.12.68. ...	...	484

The total number of corporation houses completed and occupied during the year 1968, was 301 in the following types:-

1 bedroom bungalows ...	60
1 bedroom flats ...	100
2 bedrooms flats ...	10
3 bedrooms houses ...	131

Number of houses vacated and re-let during 1968 ...	230
Number of Aged Persons Units built up to 31.12.68. ...	721

ALL AGED PERSONS UNITS EXCEPT FOR 16 FLATS ARE NOW COVERED BY WARDENS.

The weekly inclusive rents for Corporation dwellings ranged between 34/6 for pre-war Aged Persons bungalows, to 106/9 for a 5 bedroomed post war house.

One-bedroomed premises are most useful for the aged, for people living alone and even for childless married couples.

For the increasing number of old people it will be most useful to have a large number of one bedroomed flatlets, grouped round common sitting rooms, centrally heated and with a Resident Warden. A scheme of 41 units is now in course of erection at Habberley Estate and will be completed in early 1970.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Kidderminster air is not polluted by surrounding towns nor by local heavy industry. More and more private houses, and public buildings are using electricity, gas or oil fuels. The sponsors of coal fuels have invented very complicated and ingenious apparatus for burning coal with less air pollution, but ever more people are realising the toil, dirt and inconvenience both public and private that is inevitable when solid fuel is used. As more nuclear electricity is produced and as more natural gas becomes available we shall be freed from our soot laden, sulphurous atmosphere, and enabled to breathe clean air and enjoy more sunshine.

In the meantime we have no smoke controlled area in the town and anyone is at liberty to make the most noisome smoke from domestic chimney or garden bonfire.

A further note on Atmospheric Pollution will be found on page 32.

WATER SUPPLY.

There has been an adequate supply of water pumped from deep wells and augmented from the Birmingham source of water in the Elan Valley. The water has always proved to be of excellent quality although totally lacking in fluoride, which is essential for building decay-resistant teeth. Until the community insists on sufficient fluoride being added to the water supply, it will continue to suffer the enormous amount of dental decay now found all over the town.

GENERAL HEALTH.

Mothers and children are generally very healthy (apart from dental decay). Older people, particularly men are liable to suffer from increasing bronchitis, coronary thrombosis and lung cancer. These three conditions are made much worse by cigarette smoking.

The highest figures ever were recorded for deaths from lung cancer, 28,826 in England and Wales i.e.

One man in twelve who died.

Deaths in 1968.

Total - 520

Causes. (See also page 11.)

Heart and Circulatory	-	155
Intracranial Haemorrhage (Stroke)	-	77
Cancer other than lung	-	79
Respiratory - Pneumonia and bronchitis	-	67
Lung Cancer	-	13

During the last 20 years the average expectation of life has increased from 64 - 68 years for men and from 69 - 74 for women. Why should there be this difference in expectation of life between the sexes?

Deaths in 1968 contd....

The ages at which resident deaths have taken place during 1968 are as follows:-

Under 4 weeks	11
4 weeks and under 1 year	NIL
Between 1 and 5 years	NIL
Between 5 and 15 years	NIL
Between 15 and 25 years	3
Between 25 and 35 years	4
Between 35 and 45 years	7
Between 45 and 55 years	26
Between 55 and 65 years	89
Between 65 and 75 years	119
75 years and upwards	261

NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM EACH DISEASE.

Cause of Death	Male.	Female.
1. Tuberculosis of Respiratory System.	2	1
2. Other Tuberculosis, incl. Late Effects.	1	NIL
3. Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases.	NIL	1
4. Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach.	2	11
5. Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus.	11	2
6. Malignant Neoplasm - Breast.	NIL	12
7. Malignant Neoplasm - Uterus.	NIL	3
8. Leukaemia.	NIL	1
9. Other Malignant Neoplasms etc.	27	23
10. Benign & Unspecific Neoplasms.	NIL	2
11. Diabetes Mellitus.	NIL	8
12. Other Endocrine etc. Diseases.	NIL	3
13. Amaemias.	1	1
14. Mental Disorders.	1	NIL
15. Other Diseases of Nervous System etc.	1	5
16. Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease.	3	5
17. Hypertensive Disease.	2	3
18. Ischaemic Heart Disease.	77	41
19. Other Forms of Heart Disease.	11	26
20. Cerebrovascular Disease.	37	40
21. Other Diseases of Circulatory System.	6	22
22. Influenza.	3	3
23. Pneumonia.	10	24
24. Bronchitis & Emphysema.	12	15
25. Asthma.	NIL	2
26. Other Disease of Respiratory System.	2	NIL
27. Peptic Ulcer.	5	2
28. Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia.	3	1
29. Cirrhosis of Liver.	NIL	2
30. Other Diseases of Digestive System.	2	3
31. Nephritis and Nephrosis.	1	NIL
32. Hyperplasia of Prostate.	1	NIL
33. Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System.	3	3
34. Diseases of Muscular-Skeletal System.	NIL	2
35. Congenital Anomalies.	2	3
36. Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.	NIL	1
37. Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality.	2	2
38. Symptoms and Ill defined Conditions.	6	NIL
39. Motor Vehicle Accidents.	3	NIL
40. All other Accidents.	4	4
41. All other External Causes.	1	1
	242	278

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

Preventive Measures.

Diphtheria

791 primary immunisations were completed and 1,099 reinforcing injections were given.

Poliomyelitis Vaccination.

808 primary immunisations were completed and 979 reinforcing doses were given orally.

Tuberculosis.

The miniature Mass Radiography Unit visited the Borough every Monday from 2-30 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. to examine ante-natal patients, patients referred by general practitioners and other members of the public.

B.C.G. inoculation was offered to the 13 year and older children and was accepted by 84.1%

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS) during the year 1968.

Diseases.	Total cases notified.	Total Deaths.
Dysentery	NIL	NIL
Scarlet Fever	6	NIL
Pneumonia	NIL	34
Measles	511	NIL
Poliomyelitis	1	NIL
Erysipelas	NIL	NIL
Food Poisoning	NIL	NIL
Diphtheria	NIL	NIL
Whooping Cough	NIL	NIL
Puerperal Pyrexia	NIL	NIL

TUBERCULOSIS.

There were 6 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 8 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified. 4 deaths were due to Tuberculosis.

Year	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	New Cases.	Deaths.	New Cases.	Deaths.
1958	17	3	2	1
1959	16	3	5	NIL
1960	21	6	3	NIL
1961	9	NIL	6	NIL
1962	17	3	1	NIL
1963	15	4	NIL	NIL
1964	9	5	NIL	NIL
1965	8	NIL	1	NIL
1966	7	NIL	1	NIL
1967	12	NIL	2	NIL
1968	6	3	8	1

SPECIAL SERVICES.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

These services are the direct responsibility of the Worcestershire County Council and are discussed in the County Medical Officer's Report.

LABORATORY SERVICE.

The standing arrangements with the County Analyst have remained in force. The Public Health Laboratory, Worcester, is available for examination of medical specimens.

The Medical Practitioners of the Borough also use the Laboratory at the General Hospital.

CARE OF OLD PEOPLE.

The housing of old people is discussed on page 8. As more people are progressing to old age, so more accommodation will be required, and since it is often better to live in ones own home than to go into an old persons home, more and more supportive services will be required. These include home helps, district nurses, bath attendants, laundry facilities, house service people (for doing odd jobs) short stay convalescent homes etc.,

During the year all the voluntary and statutory organisations listed in the 1967 Report have given excellent service to the old people.

There has also been formed the Kidderminster Association for the Welfare of Old People, whose function is to be a forum for those organisations helping old people. It is hoped that the various organisations will meet eachother, discuss the problems of old peoples' care, ask for and obtain help from their association. The provision of an Old Peoples Day Centre has received much attention, and should be available in the near future.

DISINFESTATION AND DISINFECTION.

Disinfestation and disinfection were undertaken by the Health Department on account of the following:-

Ants	4
Fleas	7
Bugs	51
Cockroaches	1

See also page 27.

PUBLIC MORTUARY.

The agreement made between the Borough and the Mid-Worcestershire Hospital Management Committee, whereby for an annual payment the Borough use the Kidderminster General Hospital's Mortuary, continued to work satisfactorily.

HEALTH INFORMATION.

Throughout the year members of the Health Department have been giving knowledge of how to enjoy healthier lives. People want to be well but so often they will not take the necessary measures to secure good health.

What is the use of telling a "hooked" drug addict, be it tobacco, alcohol or heroin that he would be better to break his slavery to the habit?

Better conditions are being provided by the community, but the rules of healthy living must be learned by children, and on these we should concentrate our health teaching efforts.

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES.

Clinic.	Situation and time of Session.	Provided by
Maternity and Child Welfare Centres	Holy Innocents' Hall, Foley Park - Monday 2-0 to 4-0 p.m. St. Oswalds Parish Hall, Broadwaters. Mondays 2-0 to 4-0 p.m. Birchen Coppice Church Hall - 2nd and 4th Tuesday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Franché Church Hall Franche - Tuesday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Coventry Street Clinic Thursday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Comberton Church Hall - Tuesday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Habberley Church Hall - Wednesdays 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m.	County Council
Tuberculosis	Kidderminster General Hospital - Wednesday 10-30 a.m. and 3-0 p.m. Thursday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m.	Regional Hospital Board.
Consultative Ante-Natal Clinic	Kidderminster General Hospital - Weekly, Wednesday 11-0 a.m.	Regional Hospital Board.
Family Planning Clinic	Coventry Street Clinic. Wednesday 2-0 p.m. to 4-0 p.m. Tuesday 5-30 p.m. to 7-0 p.m.	Family Planning Association.
Chiropody Service.	Monday morning, every other Tuesday morning, Tuesday afternoon. Wednesday morning and afternoon. Friday morning and afternoon.	County Council.
Cytology Clinic.	Coventry Street Clinic, By appointment.	County Council.

- 15 -
REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1968.

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee.

Mr. Chairman,

In accordance with Circular 1/69 of the Department of Health and Social Security I present with pleasure the Report on the work accomplished by the Public Health Inspectorate for the year ended 31st December 1968, coupled with a short report on the Public Cleansing Service administered by the Department dealing with the collection and disposal of household refuse, some trade refuse and salvage.

The main details of the Report can be found on subsequent pages and are set out in tabular or other form for ease of reference.

Among the many duties with which the Department is identified Slum Clearance is fast gaining pre-eminence, the aim being to clear away as speedily as possible many sub-standard houses remaining in the Borough. Meat and Food Inspection, Refuse collection and disposal still makes demands on your Officers. A new duty was imposed on us in the early part of the year under the Civic Amenities Act by way of dealing with abandoned motor vehicles.

A staff change was made during the year, not only in personnel, but also in the nature of duties. Due to the resignation of one of our Public Health Inspectors an Authorised Meat Inspector was appointed mainly to operate at one large Abattoir in the Borough. From the angle of staffing this was a new departure. Results to date have proved satisfactory.

I accord a generous word of appreciation to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for continued support, thanks to the Medical Officer Health and Officers of other Departments for much help during the past year, such help being of inestimable value. I would again like to record my appreciation to senior members of the County Analyst's Department, also to Dr. R.J. Henderson and Staff of the Public Health Laboratory Service, Worcester, whose advice when sought on matters concerning food etc., is so readily given. To the Inspectorate and Clerical Staff I offer my thanks for loyalty and application to duties.

Yours obediently,

J.B. HINTON.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTION.

Up to the commencement of the year The Borough possessed a complement of 8 private slaughterhouses, one of which was not re-licensed in 1968 and in addition another went out of use at the close of the year. We have no municipally owned Public Abattoir. The duty of meat inspection was pursued during the year with customary diligence. Further detailed particulars of the result of such work can be found on subsequent pages. During the year a full time Authorised Meat Inspector was appointed for this work at the largest slaughterhouse.

THE MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS, 1963.

The coming into force of the Meat Inspection Regulations 1963, have made the work more exacting in as much as they provide that meat must be inspected at Slaughterhouses in accordance with the standard procedure laid down in their 1st Schedule. Meat which is passed must be marked with a stamp bearing the name of the Local Authority and a Code No. or letter to identify the officer who made the inspection.

THE MEAT INSPECTION (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1966.

The above regulations which came into force on the 30th September, 1966, gave Local Authorities (after due consultation with slaughterhouse occupiers) the power to determine the days and hours during which slaughtering may take place at private slaughterhouses within their districts.

In accordance with these Regulations the hours of slaughter for premises within the Borough have been fixed.

No departure from the hours originally fixed was effected during the year.

MEAT AND EDIBLE OFFAL CONDEMNED.

DISEASE	TONS.	CWTS.	LBS.
Cirrhosis, Distomatosis	3	0	100
Parasitic Cysts	2	17	9
Pyogenic Abscesses	2	2	71
Emaciation & Odema	1	15	78
Tuberculosis	1	8	45
Necrosis	1	6	85
Pleurisy, Peritonitis & Pericarditis	1	5	65
Hydatid Cysts	1	3	63
Septicaemia		17	43
Injury & Bruising		13	14
Pyaemia		10	63
Johne's Disease		9	45
Jaundice		6	64
Pneumonia		6	41
Septic Pneumonia		5	14
Anaemia		4	90
Angiomatosis		4	84
Septic Metritis		4	22
Septic Arthritis		2	85
Cysticercus Bovis		2	44
Actinobacillosis		2	38
Moribund & Imperfect Bleeding		2	57
Gangrene		1	107
Arthritis		1	46
Swine Erysipelas			90
Contamination			76
Decomposition			50
Tumours			45
Emphysema			32
Immaturity			30
Uraemia			30
Xanthosis			29
Actinomycosis			25
Fatty Change			25
Septic Pericarditis			16
Metritis			13
Hydronephrosis			12
Corynebacterium Equi			10
Urticaria			8

Total weight condemned - 25 tons. 0 cwts. 72 lbs.

CARCASES, INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	6,889	170	471	33,701	12,614
Number inspected	6,889	170	471	33,701	12,614
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	1	10	6	68	62
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1,738	63	2	2,632	1,684
Percentage of number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	25.2	37.0	0.42	7.8	13.3
<u>TUBERCULOSIS:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	-	-	-	252
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	0.01	-	-	-	2.0
<u>CYSTICERCUS BOVIS:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	8	-	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Cysticercus Bovis	0.12	-	-	-	-

OTHER FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED.

4673 tins, packets & jars of various foodstuffs
(estimated weight 1 ton 0 cwt 96 lbs).

86 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.	Potatoes.	77 lbs.	Beef.
43 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.	Miscellaneous frozen foods.	53 lbs.	Dressed ducks.
22 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.	Onions.	30 lbs.	Fish.
658 lbs.	Dressed chickens.	24 lbs.	Corned Beef.
634 lbs.	Bacon.	24 lbs.	Ox tongue.
580 lbs.	Peaches.	24 lbs.	Pork sausages.
380 lbs.	Tinned lambs liver.	18 lbs.	Jellied veal.
260 lbs.	Tinned ham.	16 lbs.	Luncheon meat.
200 lbs.	Lamb.	14 lbs.	Pork.
132 lbs.	Tinned apples.	9 lbs.	Tinned pork.
82 lbs.	Yoghurt.	48 fl. ozs.	Ice cream.

SUMMARY.

	T.	C.	lbs.
Total weight (meat and Foods) Condemned	35.	2.	82.
Total weight (Meat) Condemned	25.	0.	72.

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958.

One of the principal requirements of this Act is to ensure that persons engaged in the slaughtering of food animals hold a licence and these licences specify the kind of animals which may be slaughtered and the types of instruments to be used. The licences are for 12 monthly periods and require renewal at the end of that time. Persons holding such licences must be over 18 years of age and competent to discharge their duties.

Number of Licences in force - 27.

No Ritual Slaughter took place in the Borough during the year.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

ICE-CREAM - Registration of premises.

Number of premises where Ice-Cream is manufactured, stored or sold.

Manufacturers (complete cold mix only)	1
Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream only is sold ...	169
Premises where wrapped Ice-Cream and bulk is sold	
(Does not include Cafes)	1

From the above table it will be readily appreciated that most of the ice-cream sold in this Borough is supplied by large manufacturers whose premises are outside our district. This is achieved mainly by either bulk deliveries to retail shops and stores or by retail vans.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

ROUTINE SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

Total number of samples taken for chemical analysis during the year. 155.

<u>Nature of Samples.</u>	<u>Number Taken.</u>
Beverages	3
Butter	4
Cheese and Cheese Spread	7
Condiments	2
Confectionery	10
Cream, fresh	1
Dessert preparation	1
Diabetic Foods	3
Drugs	12
Fats other than butter	5
Fish and Fish Products	3
Fruit Products	2
Glucose	1
Honey	2
Ice-Cream	3
Meat Products	8
Milk and Channel Islands Milk	46
Milk, canned	1
Poultry Products	4
Preserves	5
Sauce	1
Sausages and Sausage Rolls	16
Savouries	1
Soft Drinks and Soft drink crystals	7
Soup, dried	1
Sugar	2
Sweets	1
Table Jelly	1
Tea	1
Yoghurt	1

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

ACTION TAKEN REGARDING SAMPLES IRREGULAR.

Sample No.	Sample of	Deficiency or Condition	Result, Action, etc.,
782	Cream Cheese	Fat content 21.1 per cent)	Retailer agreed to display products with proper descriptions.
784	Cream Cheese	Fat content 30.2 per cent)	
		Both wrongly described as cream cheese, should be designated full fat soft cheese.)	
783	Cottage Cheese	Fat content 8.8 per cent.)	
		Should be further designated low fat soft cheese.)	
810	Pork Sausages	Undeclared preservative) 240 parts per million.)	Manufacturers attention drawn to requirements.
811	Pork Sausages	Low meat content of 61 per cent.)	
814	Pork Sausages	Low meat content of 60 per cent.)	
817	Preserves	Low soluble solids 66 per cent.)	
839	Vitamin Preparation Supavite.	Grossly deficient in Vitamin A and C because of deterioration on storage.	Remaining stock withdrawn. Retailer went out of business.
882	Beef Casserole	Meat content 38 per cent. Would be more correctly described as "Beef and Vegetable Casserole".	Manufacturer agreed to amend label.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLES.

Examination of Milk.

The following is a table showing the number of samples taken and results:-

Sample	No.	Methylene Blue Test			Phosphatase Test		Turbidity Test
		Passed	Failed	Void	Passed	Failed	Passed
Pasteurised	24	21	1	2	24	-	-
Sterilised	5	-	-	-	-	-	5

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955 Contd

ROUTINE SAMPLES TAKEN DURING THE YEAR.

The sampling of certain types of foods for bacteriological examination continues to be used to assess the cleanliness of their preparation etc., Below is a synopsis of the samples taken ..

(a) Ice-Cream.

Samples submitted	Grades			
	1	2	3	4
4	3	-	1	-

(b) Other Foods.

<u>Commodity.</u>	<u>Number of Samples Taken.</u>
Faggots	2
Sausages	14
Chicken	4
Fresh Faggots	1
Cheese	1

WATER SAMPLES.

Six samples of mains water were taken during the year and submitted for Bacteriological Examinations. One sample taken from a newly installed water main at Blakebrook General Hospital was unsatisfactory. A satisfactory sample was obtained after the main had been flushed. Other samples were satisfactory and were in addition to the routine samples taken by the Water Board.

THE MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATION) REGULATIONS 1963.

At the end of the year the following licences were in force:-

Pasteurised Milk	- Processing Plants	1
	- Dealers (prepacked milk)	31
Sterilised Milk	- Processing Plants	1
	- Dealers (prepacked milk)	56

MILK AND DAIRIES (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1959.

Number of Distributors registered	-	7
Number of dairy Premises registered	-	2

FOOD COMPLAINTS.

The incidence of Food Complaints has now become a permanent feature in the Department's work and during the year a total of 37 were received and investigated. Commodities affected included bread, pies, poultry, fish, meat, cheese, milk, confectionery and cereal. Complaints included abnormal taste, mould, decomposition, infestation, contraries and discolouration. After enquiries, often exhaustive, warning letters were sent in 6 cases. In no case was it necessary to resort to prosecution.

As mentioned in my last report certain wrapped foods seem prone to mould growth development. It follows, therefore, that the utmost care should be exercised by shop keepers and assistants to ensure proper stock rotation and so prevent the sale of goods which are passed their "self-life" or otherwise out of condition. Various systems of codings are in use by producers and shop-keepers, the meanings of which are more often than not obscure except to the initiators. I cannot emphasise too strongly the importance of vigilance on the part of food retailers and their staffs in handling these perishable commodities to prevent as far as is humanly possible their coming into conflict with the food laws.

SUMMARY OF FOOD PREMISES.

The figures of various categories of food business given below are so arranged in accordance with Department of Health and Social Security Circular 1/69 as to show particulars of compliance with the parts of the Food Hygiene General Regulations 1960 concerning hand washing facilities and facilities for washing equipment.

Premises	Total No.	Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960		
		Regulation 16 Complied	Regulation 19	
			Applicable	Complied
Butchers.	30	29	30	30
Cafes, Restaurants.	23	20	23	23
Confectioners.	12	12	12	12
Fish & Chip Shops.	15	15	15	15
Greengrocers.	17	17	17	17
Grocers, General Stores.	103	99	103	103
Industrial Canteens.	16	16	16	16
Multiple Stores.	8	8	8	8
Sugar Confectioners.	12	12	7	7
Wholesale Warehouses.	8	8	2	2

HOUSING.

Considerable progress was made during the year in the work of much needed slum clearance. However, there is still quite a modicum of houses in our programme which are of a low standard, yet to be dealt with before we can say the goal is in sight - so far as these activities are concerned. I regard the removal of slum property as very rewarding work.

Set out below is a synopsis of the work, viz:

(a) Action under Housing Act during year.

No. of houses represented for Demolition Orders.	2
" " Demolition Orders made.	2
" " houses represented for Closing Orders.	3
" " Closing Orders made (whole houses)	2
" " " " (part of a building).	-
" " " " changed to Demolition Orders.	-
" " " " determined (house made fit)	-
Undertakings not to use house accepted.	-
" " to repair house accepted.	-
No. of houses represented, Clearance Areas.	143
No. of houses actually demolished during year.	62
" " houses closed.	2
" " persons displaced.	339

The 143 houses represented in "Clearance Areas" were located as follows:-

Bromsgrove Street No. 2.	71 houses.
Jerusalem Walk.	17 houses.
Dudley Street	55 houses.

A Public Enquiry was held during the year on the Orchard Street area, which was subsequently confirmed.

(b) Public Health Act.

Houses in which defects were remedied.	
After informal action by Local Authority.	92
After formal action by Local Authority.	39

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED - PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936.

Preliminary Notices served ...	93
Intimation letters sent ...	23
Statutory Notices served ...	28

Set out overleaf is a summary of defects remedied.

HOUSING REPAIRS AND RENT ACT, 1957.

No applications were received during the year.

SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED (HOUSES) YEAR 1968.

DWELLING HOUSES.

Roofs repaired ...	...	...	...	...	44
Chimney stacks repointed/repared	...	...	...	...	3
Defective spouting repaired, refixed or new provided	...	...	...	...	24
House brickwork repointed/repared	...	...	...	...	5
Plasterwork repaired or renewed ..	...	...	...	...	15
Windows repaired, sashcords provided	...	...	...	...	17
Floors repaired ..	...	...	...	...	6
Stairs or steps repaired..	...	...	...	...	2
Woodwork of doors repaired or new ones provided ..	...	...	...	...	12
Dormer window repaired ...	...	...	...	...	1
Provision of ventilation..	...	...	...	...	1
Provision of fire escape..	...	...	...	...	1
Repair or renewal of wash hand basin	...	...	...	...	2
Repair or renewal of gas water heater	...	...	...	...	1
Renewal of fire basket ...	...	...	...	...	1
Rendering of external walls	...	...	...	...	2

WATER-CLOSETS.

Roofs repaired ...	...	...	...	...	2
New pedestal pans provided	...	...	...	...	8
Flushing cistern repaired or new provided.	...	...	...	...	17
Leaking water-closet joints repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Seats provided ...	...	...	...	...	2
Provision of adequate water supply to cistern	...	...	...	...	1

DRAINAGE.

Obstructed drains cleared.	...	...	...	...	61
Drains relaid or repaired.	...	...	...	...	8
Sink waste pipe cleared...	2

WATER SUPPLY.

Waste pipes repaired or new provided	1
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SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTIONS, INTERVIEWS AND

OTHER VISITS.

Civic Amenities Act (Abandoned Vehicles)	381
House Inspections (Public Health and Housing Acts)...	...	...	1191
Water Supply ...	...	...	5
Drain Testing ...	...	...	31
Interview with Owner or Builder ...	...	...	53
Enquiry Inspections.. ...	...	...	69
Improvement Grant Inspections ...	...	...	38
Advance on Mortgage Inspections ...	...	...	5
Official Searches re Property ...	...	...	15
Common Lodging House Visits.. ...	...	...	5
Offensive Trades Visits ...	...	...	2
Factory Act (Sanitary accommodation etc.,)...	...	...	8
Rodent Control ...	...	...	75
Refuse Disposal ...	...	...	121
Infectious Diseases.. ...	...	...	1
Places of Entertainment ...	...	...	5
Private Slaughterhouses (Meat Inspection) ...	...	...	1695
Private Slaughterhouses (Construction) ...	...	...	8
Food Preparing Premises ...	...	...	26
Retail Food Shops ...	...	...	114
Ice-Cream Retailers.. ...	...	...	2
Tinned Food and other articles of food examination...	...	...	96
Food and Drugs Sampling ...	...	...	95
Interview in Office.. ...	...	...	317
Other complaints and miscellaneous visits ...	...	...	806
Atmospheric Pollution (Clean Air Act) ...	...	...	33
Mobile Vans (Food)...	...	...	11
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act ...	...	...	849
Keeping of Animals... ...	...	...	3
Licensing Act ...	...	...	1
Tents, Vans & Shed (Human occupation) ...	...	...	1
Markets ...	...	...	16

MAGISTERIAL PROCEEDINGS.

Summary proceedings were instituted in the following cases during the year.

Nature of Offence	Enactment Contravened	Result
Selling a butter Madeira cake which was contaminated with mould.	Food & Drugs Act, 1955. Section 2.	Fined £10 plus £3. 3. 0. Advocate's Fee.
Selling carton of Yogurt contaminated with mould.	Food & Drugs Act, 1955 Section 2.	Fined 25 guineas plus £5. 3. 0. costs.
Failure to comply with notice to execute works of drainage.	Public Health Act, 1936 Section 39.	Fined £3.

DISINFESTATION OF PREMISES, CLOTHING ETC.,

The Department is called upon for help in the eradication of vermin with many requests of a varied nature, more recently wasps nests seem to be figuring. Help is given whenever possible. Disinfestation against the more common house pests, viz: bed bugs, fleas and cockroaches being the main feature.

The spraying of infested premises, furniture and other fittings with an insecticide which contains both "knock-down" and "residual" properties is the method usually applied, sometimes supplemented with gaseous fumigation. Where possible such fittings as picture rails, skirting boards, architraves and wallpapers are removed, so as to facilitate the work.

Number of houses disinfested by local authority - 49.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

We have now only two of these houses remaining in the Borough maintaining a reasonable standard of accommodation. They do, of course, provide shelter for the type of person moving from district to district and job to job. It was found necessary to write to the owner on one occasion during the year drawing his attention to certain matters requiring action.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

We have now only one trade being carried on at present which comes within this term - that of a Gut Scraper.

MORTUARY.

During the year 107 bodies were received into the Mortuary at the Kidderminster General Hospital.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. INSPECTIONS for the purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	10	8	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority.	205	-	-	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers premises.)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	215	8	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1961 Contd

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

(if defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions, they are reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Particulars	Found	Number of cases in which defects were found.			Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted.
		Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector.	By H.M. Inspector.	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature. (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	8	8	-	8	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	8	8	-	8	-

THEATRES, CINEMAS ETC.,

The one theatre and one cinema together with several other places of entertainment were inspected for a report on sanitary accommodation etc., to the Licensing Justices in relation to Theatre and Cinematograph Licences.

They were found to be satisfactory. During the year the theatre closed down and was later demolished to make way for the Ring Road.

RODENT CONTROL. PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Two rodent operatives are employed, who in addition to their duties as such also carry out the work of disinfection and disinfestation. The work entailed covers private houses, business premises, refuse disposal sites and main sewers. There are a few cases of business premises where private firms are engaged in rodent control and disinfestations.

A summary of the work is set out below:-

	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
No. of properties in district.	18,247	7
No. of properties inspected as a result of notification.	501	1
Number infested by		
(a) Rats	423	1
(b) Mice	115	-
No. of properties inspected for reasons other than notification.	942	-
Number infested by		
(a) Rats	861	-
(b) Mice	558	-

SEWER TREATMENTS.

Number of manholes poison baited. 19

Number of manholes showing bait taken. 6

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The Act is primarily concerned with the health, safety and welfare of workers in office, shop and railway premises. It came into operation on the 1st August, 1964.

Below is a synopsis of the work done under the Act during 1968.

The number of registered premises covered by the Act is 511.

The number of persons employed in these premises totalled 3,285 comprising 1,364 males and 1,921 females.

A total of 847 visits of all types were made to premises and of these 290 were general inspections.

12 accidents were reported during the year under Section 48 of the Act. These were investigated but in no case was any further action necessary.

During the 290 general inspections, a total of 48 contraventions was found and 32 informal letters were sent to occupiers or owners drawing their attention to these matters and asking that steps be taken to remedy them.

The contraventions were as follows:-

Cleanliness	Section 4	..	..	2
Overcrowding	"	5	..	1
Temperature	"	6	..	3
Ventilation	"	7	..	1
Lighting	"	8	..	4
Sanitary Conveniences	"	9	..	10
Washing Facilities	"	10	..	6
Drinking Water	"	11	..	-
Clothing Accommodation	"	12	..	-
Floors and Passages	"	16	..	3
Dangerous Machinery	"	17	..	11
First Aid	"	24	..	-
Employment of Persons Order	"	49	..	3
Information for Employees Regulations				4

PET ANIMALS ACT.

This Act seeks to secure that the offering for sale of animals, birds, and fish shall be on suitable premises and that they shall be fed, watered and protected from the risk of fire.

No. of Licences issued for such premises 7

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT.

There is one registration of an establishment under this Act.

CARAVANS.

There are no licensed caravan sites in the Borough. We are, however, faced with the problem of nomadic dwellers invading vacant pieces of land. Your Council's Enforcement Officer is evicting these people from Council owned land with monotonous regularity.

The fouling and desecration of land perpetrated by such people is something which must be seen to be believed.

If the mere moving on of these people is not the answer, then possibly we must look to a more objective approach to the problem, possibly on a national basis.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

Chimney Heights.

In three instances the Department was asked to advise on the height for new industrial chimneys. This was given in accordance with the memoranda on chimney heights issued as a guide under the Clean Air Act, 1956.

New Furnaces.

Three notifications of the installation of new industrial furnaces were received, together with a request for prior approval. The approval was given in accordance with plans and specifications submitted.

Atmospheric Pollution Recording Apparatus.

An 8 port volumetric and smoke filter apparatus installed in the Church Street Offices is working satisfactorily, the results from which are passed on to Warren Springs Laboratory.

RAINFALL.

Month	Inches		Rainfall for the past ten years	
	1967	1968	Year	Inches
January	1.13	2.05		
February	2.36	1.36		
March	1.72	.94	1959	24.56
April	0.58	2.52	1960	37.08
May	5.53	2.59	1961	22.73
June	0.47	3.46	1962	22.79
July	0.98	3.64	1963	20.90
August	1.84	1.73	1964	19.49
September	2.38	3.20	1965	27.89
October	5.00	2.16	1966	24.93
November	1.57	1.36	1967	26.81
December	3.25	2.65	1968	27.66
Total:	26.81	27.66	Average:	25.48

PUBLIC CLEANSING, REFUSE AND SALVAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

The Refuse Incineration Plant is continuing to work well and as year succeeds year a growing feeling of satisfaction and confidence is gained in this more sophisticated and hygienic method of refuse disposal. There is indeed every indication that our refuse disposal system is on a solid foundation which should auger well for future years. Every endeavour is made to maintain the Plant in a clean and satisfactory state and it is gratifying to recall that this is commented upon very favourably by visiting parties. A steady programme of improvement at the Depot has given the whole place a much needed "face-lift". These improvements included work in the mess-rooms and an appreciable amount of tarmacing of ground.

The entire work of salvage recovery is done at the Hoobrook Depot, where the Plant is housed and where all refuse and salvage operations are now concentrated.

In the main a weekly collection of refuse and salvage has been maintained throughout the year. As mentioned in my report for last year a new approach was made to the problem of holiday refuse collection "break". A new system of overtime working previous to and after the holiday has resulted in an almost complete absence of the usual post holiday spate of complaints.

Vehicles and Equipment.

The following is a list of vehicles and equipment used by the Department during the year under review (apart from the separation and incineration plant itself).

- 2 S.D. Fore and Aft container bulk loaders.
- 6 S.D. Fore and Aft Refuse Freighters.
- 1 Morris Van for salvage.
- 1 Morris dropside tipping lorry.
- 1 Morris Van.
- 1 Massey Ferguson Mechanical Shovel.
- 1 Metal Baling Press (ex Destructor Plant)
- 1 Paper Baling Press.
- 1 Elevator for loading baled paper.
- 1 Commer metal bodied lorry for clinker from Plant.

During the year we have disposed of as much salvageable material as is possible, such as baled paper, baled tins, light scrap iron and broken glass. Apart from the revenue accruing from the sale of this material we are indeed fortunate in being able to be completely rid of it. This I would emphasise as one of the cardinal features of our present method of refuse and salvage disposal.

* The cost of collection and disposal of refuse and salvage for the year 1968 was	...	...	£85,813
* The income was	...	...	£8,111
The net cost being	...	...	£77,702

* Financial year ended 31st March, 1969. These figures do not include administration costs.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF DOMESTIC AND TRADE REFUSE.

Loads of refuse taken to incinerator	7,609
*Loads of refuse taken to Broadwaters Tip	409
Total number of loads of refuse removed	8,018
Loads of salvage removed	1,204
Loads of destructor waste taken to tip	1,781

*The Refuse Plant underwent its annual maintenance in the month of September and was out of commission for three weeks. This accounts for the 409 loads tipped at Broadwaters.

RECORD OF SALVAGE FOR THE YEAR 1968/1969.

The weights of the salvaged materials have been segregated and are set out below:-

Materials	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.
Baled Waste Paper	388	17	0	3,540	4	6
Baled Destructor Scrap ...	374	2	1	1,624	11	6
Cullet (Broken glass)	180	6	3	279	16	0
Light Scrap Iron	57	1	2	126	2	1
Total:	1,000	7	2	£5,570	14	1

OTHER INCOME.

Incineration charges	£790 0. 0.
(1st April, 1968 - 31st March, 1969)	
Removal of Trade Refuse Charges.	£1,750 0. 0.
(1st April, 1968 - 31st March, 1969)	

ABANDONED VEHICLES.

During the year part III of the Civic Amenities Act, 1967 gave powers to and eventually placed a duty upon Local Authorities to deal with abandoned motor vehicles. Arrangements were made with a local car breaker and although the procedure is complicated it has been carried out smoothly. Where the owner of an abandoned vehicle can be traced he becomes liable to pay a fee of £6 where removal and disposal of the vehicle is carried out by the Council.

No. of vehicles removed by owners	52
No. of vehicles removed by Council	48

